

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

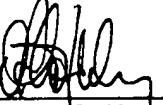
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Serial No. : 09/822,154 Confirmation No.: 6306

REMARKS

Please enter this Second Preliminary Amendment prior to the substantive examination of the present application. To more clearly define the invention, applicant adds new claims 23 and 24. Support for new claims 23 and 24 can be found in Figures 2 and 3, in original claims 1 and 11, and in the specification on page 4, fourth paragraph as amended in the amendment mailed December 16, 2002.

It is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance, and such action is requested. No new matter has been added. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if there are any matters which could be discussed to expedite the prosecution of the above-identified application.

Respectfully submitted,

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